

MINUTES  
CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES  
EDWARD A. GREER EDUCATION CENTER, BOARD ROOM  
2832 E. FLAMINGO ROAD, LAS VEGAS, NV 89121

WORK SESSION

Wednesday, March 2, 2016

8:01 a.m.

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Roll Call: Members Present  
Linda E. Young, President  
Chris Garvey, Vice President  
Patrice Tew, Clerk  
Kevin L. Child, Member  
Erin Cranor, Member  
Carolyn Edwards, Member  
Deanna L. Wright, Member

Pat Skorkowsky, Superintendent of Schools

Also present were: Mary-Anne Miller, Board Counsel, District Attorney's Office; Carlos McDade, General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel; Kim Wooden, Deputy Superintendent, Educational and Operational Excellence Unit; Mike Barton, Chief Student Achievement Officer, Instruction Unit; Brenda Larsen-Mitchell, Assistant Chief Student Achievement Officer, Performance Zone 8, Leadership Development Department; Lisa Rustand, Director, Leadership Development Department; Nicole Rourke, Executive Director, Government Affairs, Community and Government Relations; Cindy Krohn, Executive Assistant to the Board, Board Office; Elizabeth Carrero, Executive Manager, Office of the Superintendent; and Loreasa Nary, Administrative Secretary II, Board Office.

**TELECONFERENCE CALL CONNECTED**

Teleconference call with Trustee Wright was connected at 8:01 a.m.

**FLAG SALUTE**

Trustee Child led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ADOPT AGENDA**

*Adopt agenda with the understanding that there may be a need for some flexibility in the order in which the agenda items are heard.*

*Motion: Garvey Second: Tew Vote: Unanimous*

## **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

None.

## **UPDATE ON ASSEMBLY BILL 394 COMMITTEES**

Update and discussion on the work of the Advisory Committee and the Technical Advisory Committee, as enacted in Assembly Bill 394 during the 2015 legislative session, for the purpose of developing a plan to reorganize the Clark County School District into local school precincts.

Superintendent Skorkowsky and Trustee Young gave an overview and update on the progress of the AB 394 Advisory Committee and Technical Advisory Committee meetings in developing a plan for the reorganization of the District.

Superintendent Skorkowsky said the last two Technical Advisory Committee meetings were focused on equity funding and parent engagement, and the next meeting would be focused on family and community engagement.

Trustee Young said the committee also discussed facilities inequities and equality among English language acquisition (ELA) and English language learner (ELL) students. She said she also raised a concern regarding inequities in jobs, housing, and medical care for families.

Trustee Garvey noted that attendance for parents and community members at the committee meetings is low. She expressed concern that the equity funding discussion seemed to be more of a "wish list" and less about what true equity would look like. She said the items or programs on that list are provided to the Moapa Valley community so she wondered if the community understands what is being provided. She said another area of concern is that the survey results show that the communities and families at risk are still not being engaged.

Trustee Cranor asked if Superintendent Skorkowsky or Trustee Young had specific goals in mind for those concepts that could be conveyed through this opportunity to elevate people's knowledge and understand regarding public education.

Superintendent Skorkowsky commented on the committees' discussions as they move forward, surrounding a community-engaged school and what parent involvement and community involvement in school decisions should look like. He said the committees are also concerned that whatever is put in place would be sustained. He said as the discussions move forward, the planning and input would become more personalized for Southern Nevada.

Trustee Young added that there needs to be more support from legislators for the whole family in terms of financial assistance, better paying jobs, housing, and adequate medical care. She said we need to continue to provide incentives and raise teacher salary to attract highly qualified teachers and to attract people to the profession.

## **UPDATE ON ASSEMBLY BILL 394 COMMITTEES (continued)**

Trustee Child said the issue is the size of the classroom, and we need to ensure that the classrooms are not overcrowded.

Superintendent Skorkowsky shared information about *CCSD Achieves*, the District's digital magazine, highlighting programs and activities happening in the District, individuals going above and beyond in their roles, and special accolades the District receives. He said it would be sent out to all employees and business and community partners, and they would be finding a way to send it out to all families.

Superintendent Skorkowsky stated that the Legislative Advisory Committee has had four meetings. He said in a recent meeting, the focus shifted to looking at the concept of Empowerment to see if that could be a method for allowing decisions to be made closer to the school level. He said the committee's next meeting is scheduled to take place in April.

Trustee Tew said she looks forward to the legislature working with the District to impose a more sustainable structure with the flexibility to grow and change with the community. She said what she appreciates about the Empowerment concept is that it allows schools and their communities to do what works best for them.

Trustee Edwards said there needs to be some modifications to the law on Empowerment so that it is more flexible. She said as this moves forward, flexibility needs to be built into the plan.

Superintendent Skorkowsky said notes are being taken at these meetings of areas that need to be changed in current, existing laws so that information can be shared with legislators.

## **APPROVE OUT-OF-DISTRICT CONSULTANT, DR. THOMAS L. ALSBURY, BALANCED GOVERNANCE SOLUTIONS™**

Approval to enter into an agreement with Dr. Thomas L. Alsbury, Balanced Governance Solutions™, to provide three training sessions with the Board of School Trustees and Superintendent of Schools, to implement Balanced Governance™; including the incorporation of effective governance policies, operating protocols, standards, and quality assessment tools that support excellence in District governance, at an approximate cost of \$25,000.00, to be paid from FY16, Fund 1000000000, Cost Center 5340000000, as recommended in Reference 3.01.

Dr. Alsbury provided a sample report generated from evaluation and assessment tools used as discussed in one element of the proposal. He spoke about on how Balanced Governance™ developed and what it is and some of the elements that are included in the proposal he has brought forward in terms of analyses and reports.

**APPROVE OUT-OF-DISTRICT CONSULTANT, DR. THOMAS L. ALSBURY, BALANCED GOVERNANCE SOLUTIONS™ (continued)**

Trustee Edwards stated that she had some concerns based on the Board's August 14, 2015, Retreat, and she asked Dr. Alsbury to listen to the recording of that meeting. She said her concern was that the discussion at that meeting was less about student achievement and more about individual Trustee's needs. She asked if three training sessions would be sufficient time to complete all of the work listed in this agenda item.

Dr. Alsbury said he believes that it would be, but it may need to be adjusted if they find it is not enough time. He said he would be asking the Board members to take the assessments online prior to them meeting, and he is going to have spent many hours looking at Board meetings and redrafting Board policy beforehand.

There was some discussion regarding the way in which these changes would be approached, including adherence to the Open Meeting Law (OML).

Trustee Edwards suggested that the Board have an agenda item to review OML before Dr. Alsbury comes back before the Board. She stated that she has asked that a cumulative account be kept on the money spent during this process as a matter of transparency. She asked that everyone be provided with what has been spent thus far, and that the information be made available to the public.

Trustee Garvey said she believes the Board has had extensive training in OML and can contact legal counsel for any questions they may have.

Trustees expressed their expectations and hopes for outcomes as a result of this change to their governance structure.

**BOARD MEMBER LEAVES**

Trustee Cranor left the Board meeting at 10:04 a.m.

**APPROVE OUT-OF-DISTRICT CONSULTANT, DR. THOMAS L. ALSBURY, BALANCED GOVERNANCE SOLUTIONS™ (continued)**

Discussion continued regarding the process moving forward in the implementation of Balanced Governance™.

**TELECONFERENCE CALL DISCONNECTED**

Teleconference call with Trustee Wright was disconnected at 10:41 a.m.

**APPROVE OUT-OF-DISTRICT CONSULTANT, DR. THOMAS L. ALSBURY, BALANCED GOVERNANCE SOLUTIONS™ (continued)**

Discussion continued regarding the process moving forward in the implementation of Balanced Governance™.

*Motion to accept 3.01 as presented.*

*Motion: Edwards Second: Tew Vote: Unanimous*

*Trustee Cranor and Trustee Wright were not present for the vote.*

**APPROVE ASSEMBLY BILL 394**

Approval on if the Board of School Trustees should take a position on the requirements of Assembly Bill 394, as enacted during the 2015 legislative session, for the purpose of developing a plan to reorganize the Clark County School District into local school precincts.

Trustee Edwards said she believes the Board should have a discussion about how Trustee Young represents the Board as a whole as the representative on the Technical Advisory Committee. She asked that the Board's position remain open during this process until the recommendation is decided upon. She said once the recommendation is presented, the Board ought to discuss its position on that recommendation.

Trustee Young agreed with Trustee Edwards and said her responsibility as the representative is to represent the wishes of the full Board and to bring information back to the Board. She recalled that the Board took a vote to support the Superintendent's proposal that he presented to the Technical Advisory Committee and the Advisory Committee, and she said they continue to stand by that response from the Superintendent.

Trustee Edwards said the Board has not taken a position to guide Trustee Young as the representative of the Board.

Trustee Garvey said there are items in the Superintendent's plan that she agrees needs to change and items that need serious consideration because of the possible negative impact on student achievement. She said the committee has yet to ask what the Board thinks or feels, so the opportunity to offer that information is limited at this time.

**BOARD MEMBER LEAVES**

Trustee Garvey left the Board meeting at 11:04 a.m.

**APPROVE ASSEMBLY BILL 394 (continued)**

Trustee Tew said it is important the legislators know that CCSD Board members are open to positive change.

**APPROVE ASSEMBLY BILL 394 (continued)**

Trustee Edwards said she is not sure whether the Board needs to be asked by legislators in order to take a position. She said she has been asked by several legislators what the Board's official position is.

Trustee Young said she does not feel it is necessary to take a position at this time.

Trustee Tew said the discussion in the committee meetings has moved beyond what the Superintendent first proposed, and she would like to express that the Board is open to positive changes.

Trustee Young said she would want to give her constituents the opportunity for input or at least provide them with an update before moving forward with taking a position.

Superintendent Skorkowsky clarified that support of his proposal is the only official position taken by the Board, and perhaps Trustees want to move beyond that to say they are open to how the discussion is going and the opportunities for positive change.

Trustee Edwards suggested that the plan that was presented should be revisited. She said she is concerned that there are only four Board members present, and said this should be a vote by the entire Board. She asked that this agenda item be brought back at the Board's next regular meeting.

Trustee Young asked that this item be brought back at the March 10, 2016, regular Board meeting with proposed language for Trustees to review and discuss.

**BILL DRAFT REQUESTS – 2017 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

Discussion regarding bill draft requests to be submitted for the 79th Regular Session of the Nevada Legislature, pursuant to NRS 218D.205.

Superintendent Skorkowsky said the intent of this item is to simply begin the discussion about what is important to the District and to the Trustees and what they would like to see as CCSD's bill drafts for the next legislative session.

Ms. Rourke reminded the Board that staff would bring recommendations for the two bill drafts forward at the Board's August work session for Board approval and submission by the deadline of September 1, 2016.

## **LEADERSHIP PREPARATORY ACADEMY BOARD PRESENTATION**

Presentation and discussion on the development and implementation of the Leadership preparatory Academy beginning February 2016.

Dr. Barton, Dr. Larsen-Mitchell, and Ms. Rustand provided an overview and update on the Leadership Preparatory Academy, which included input and feedback, hybrid administrative pools, the application process, and the leadership framework, as shown in Reference 4.02.

## **BOARD MEMBER LEAVES**

Trustee Edwards left the Board meeting at 11:35 a.m.

## **LEADERSHIP PREPARATORY ACADEMY BOARD PRESENTATION (continued)**

Trustee Child asked about the cost of this training per student.

Dr. Barton said staff would have to research the cost per student based on the salaries of Dr. Larsen-Mitchell and Ms. Rustand and other staff members.

Trustee Child asked if a business management component could be added to this training.

Dr. Larsen-Mitchell said staff could look at that option.

Trustee Child encouraged all the Trustees to go through this leadership academy.

Trustee Tew asked who the evaluators in the application process are and if there is any teacher input.

Dr. Larsen-Mitchell explained that as part of the application process, confidential references are collected, and those speak to a candidate's interpersonal skills. She said she and Ms. Rustand reviewed the applications, there were three assessors for the writing assessment, and volunteers who are currently serving as principals and assistant chief student achievement officers conducted the interviews.

Trustee Young mentioned that it is important that the administrators should be diverse and reflective of the student population.

## **EMPLOYEE LABOR RELATIONS AND CLOSED SESSION**

None.

## **AGENDA PLANNING: ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS**

None.

## **DISCUSSION AND REQUEST FOR SPECIAL MEETINGS**

None.

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

None.

**ADJOURN:** 12:02 p.m.